

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

These Remarks are responsive to the second non-final Office Action mailed August 1, 2003 (hereinafter "Office Action"). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections of claims 1, 4-17 and 34-52 in light of the following claims amendments and remarks.

Applicants' representatives also wish to thank Examiner Kerr for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives in the personal interview conducted December 18, 2003. A "Substance of the Interview" letter summarizing the issues discussed in said interview was previously submitted by Applicants' representatives.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1 and 4-55 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 18-33 and 53-55 stand withdrawn from consideration. New claims 56 and 57 are presented for entry. Upon entry of the present claim amendments, new claims and consideration of the following remarks, claims 1 and 4-57 will be pending.

Support for amended claims 1, 4-12, 17, 19, 22, 25, 27, 34 and 36-52 can be found throughout the specification as originally filed, *inter alia*, on page 1, lines 6-7 and in Experiment 1, Table 2. Support for new claims 56 and 57 can be found throughout the specification as originally filed, *inter alia*, on page 6, lines 4-17. Accordingly, Applicants assert that no new matter is introduced into the specification by way of the present claim amendments or introduction of the new dependent claims.

Applicants provide herewith a check in the amount of \$986.00, which includes the amount of \$18.00 to cover the cost of new dependent claims 56 and 57, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.16(c).